Ardie Savea Leads All Blacks in Autumn Internationals Test

Back-row stalwart Ardie Savea has called on his fellow forwards to rise to the occasion as the All Blacks prepare for a fierce clash with Ireland in their eagerly anticipated Autumn Internationals Test this Saturday. The encounter promises to be one of the highlights of the series, bringing together two of the sport’s most consistent powerhouses on neutral ground.

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New Zealand and Ireland are set to meet at Soldier Field in Chicago, a venue that holds special significance for Irish rugby supporters. It was here, back in 2016, that the men from the Emerald Isle finally broke their long-standing hoodoo, earning their first-ever victory over the All Blacks after 111 years of trying.

That historic triumph sent shockwaves through world rugby and marked the beginning of a new, fiercely competitive rivalry between the two nations. Since that breakthrough, Ireland has gone on to register four more wins against the men in black, including a historic 2-1 series success on New Zealand soil, a feat that few teams have ever achieved.

Under head coach Andy Farrell, Ireland have developed a blend of precision, power, and patience that reliably troubles even the most experienced opposition. However, the All Blacks enter this weekend’s Autumn Internationals encounter in strong

spirits. They have claimed victory in their last two Tests against Ireland, first at Dublin’s Aviva Stadium last year and then in their 2023 Rugby World Cup quarter-final showdown in France.

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Autumn Internationals 2025: Savea Warns All Blacks of Ireland’s Rising Strength

Those performances reminded the rugby world that New Zealand remains one of the most formidable teams when the stakes are highest. Despite those recent setbacks, Ireland continues to grow under Farrell’s leadership. Earlier this year, he guided the British & Irish Lions to a memorable series triumph over the Wallabies in Australia, reaffirming his status as one of rugby’s sharpest tactical minds.

Sixteen Irish players featured in that Lions squad, further strengthening the connection between the national setup and the combined touring side. Although Ireland has not consistently fielded their strongest lineup since the conclusion of this year’s Six Nations Championship, Savea remains wary of its quality.

The New Zealand captain emphasized that his team is fully aware of the challenge ahead and will need to bring physicality and precision to match the Irish intensity. They’re hard and direct, Savea said. “No handbrakes, they like to win quick ball and keep the tempo high. Their entire approach is built on collisions and control.

They’ve got a world-class forward pack, and there’s a massive responsibility on us as a unit to front up and dominate those battles. Ireland finished third in the 2025 Six Nations, enduring a tough home defeat to eventual champions France, but they quickly rebounded with convincing away victories over Georgia and Portugal in July.

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Ireland Vs New Zealand Tickets are now through eticketing.co and join Ireland at the Aviva Stadium as they face off against New Zealand, Japan, and Australia. Don’t miss the chance to witness top-tier international rugby action live! Grab your tickets today and be part of the excitement!

Ireland Vs New Zealand Set for High-Stakes Autumn Internationals Clash

Those results showcased the squad’s depth and resilience, qualities that have become hallmarks of the Farrell era. With the Lions contingent now reintegrated into the Irish camp, Savea knows that the All Blacks will need to be at their absolute best to overcome Farrell’s men. They’ve been world No. 1 before they know their game so well and exactly how they want to play, Savea explained.

When they click, they become one of the most dangerous sides in international rugby. The upcoming Test also represents more than just another fixture in the Autumn Internationals calendar. For both sides, it serves as a vital benchmark ahead of next year’s global tournaments.

The All Blacks are eager to re-establish dominance following a period of transition, while Ireland views the match as an opportunity to measure itself against one of rugby’s enduring giants. We’ve been on the wrong end of a few of those defeats,

Savea admitted. It’s a great challenge not only to match them but to come out on top this time.

As anticipation builds across both hemispheres, Saturday’s showdown at Soldier Field is expected to draw a massive global audience. With the All Blacks hungry to maintain their drive and Ireland gritty to prove their reliability against elite opposition, the Autumn Internationals Test promises high-intensity rugby, tactical duels, and moments of brilliance from two sides that know each other intimately.

Don't miss the action this fall! Secure your Autumn Internationals Tickets at **eticketing.co** and witness Ireland face off against New Zealand, Japan, and Australia in the 2025 Autumn Nations Series. Be part of the excitement at the Aviva Stadium and enjoy world-class rugby. Get your tickets today!